

Aim for the Stars' at Kids' Camp

JOSIE LOZA

Staff Writer

UNO Summer Camps have provided students in fourth through eighth grades an opportunity to experience handson learning through fossil bed field trips, robot building, a mission to the moon, chemistry experiments and science fiction writing. The "Aim for the Stars" camp is holding its third annual program from June 12 until August 11.

Classes running this summer are Totally Cool Math and Science Combo, UNO's Zoology, Biology, Astronomy, Chemistry, Science Fiction, OPPD's Energy, Pitsco-Lego-Dacta Robotics I & II and Energy I & II Camps. The eight weeks of five-day camps run from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and the price of each class varies from \$120-\$140. The university accommodates families who need to drop students off earlier or pick them up later from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

"We are trying to keep the cost low and affordable so the children are able to attend," Camp Director Connie O'Brien said.

The sessions are primarily held at the Durham Science Center, but the group hopes to expand in the future using other buildings such as Allwine and Kayser Halls. With enrolled numbers increasing from 585 the first year compared with the current 1,279 students, the group has high expectations for future developments within the program.

One supporter donated \$10,000 to establish the "Aim for

the Stars" program. With the help of 37 staff members and numerous volunteers, the program has experienced remarkable results in expansion. The intention of the program was to originate science camps, and then expand towards a museum for young students. The hope is the museum will provide an environment for the youth to learn through experimentation.

"We don't make profit from the program. It's self-sufficient," O'Brien said.

Sponsors for this year's program include K-mart, Hobby Lobby, the Omaha Public School's Bannecker Partnership, Omaha Public Power District and the NASA Science Center.

Sponsors have helped out with donations and even scholarships to pay fees. A limited number of scholarships are available for some of the children provided by the OPS Bannecker pro-

The young students participate on and off campus via fieldtrips, which included excursions to the Henry Doorly Zoo and OPPD energy site.

"This year in the OPPD

energy camp, the kids visited the nuclear power plant." O'Brien said. The students are provided an opportunity to display their

work during Family Night. Every Thursday night parents are invited to observe demonstrations and classroom activities.

The mission of the camp is to provide hands-on learning to inspire the students about math and science. O'Brien feels the program challenges, but also enlightens, each indi-

"The things they get from the camp is way beyond a regular classroom," O'Brien said.





Above: Jeffery Morris in Sci-fi camp uses a keyboard to experiment with different

Left: James Robinson (left) launches a rocket as part of UNO's Alm For the Stars summer camp. Camp counselor Don Kucera (right) assists the students to make sure everything goes off without a hitch.

Comedian Sentenced in UNO Rape

JANET HARRIETT

News Editor

Stand up comedian Vinson Champ was sentenced July 3 to 25 to 30 years in prison for the 1997 rape of a UNO instructor.

The Gateway reported previously that Heidi Hess, who has since left UNO, was raped in a computer lab in Arts and Sciences Hall while working late March 5, 1997.

Champ pleaded guilty to first degree sexual assault in the UNO case in February 1998, but asked to delay his sentencing in Douglas County pending the outcome of his trial in Lincoln for the rape of a Union College student there.

On April 10, Judge Lawrence Corrigan found Champ guilty of the Union College rape. He was sentenced to 30 to 40 years in that case.

Douglas County District Court Judge W. Mark Ashford refused Champ's request to be allowed to serve the two sentences at the same time, according to an Omaha World-Herald report. Champ will begin serving the Douglas County sentence when he finishes the one from Lancaster County.

Ashford also did not take into consideration charges Champ faces in other jurisdictions, because he has not been convicted. The Lancaster and Douglas County cases are the first to be tried of several college campus assaults to which Champ is linked.

Champ is suspected and, in some jurisdictions, charged in a string of rapes and assaults on college campuses in 1997. Authorities believe he committed rapes as he traveled the college comedy circuit at that time. He was arrested after an attempted assault in Pasadena, Calif.

Champ next faces charges in Iowa City and Davenport, Iowa and Pasadena, Calif. He is a suspect in rapes in Rock Island, III; Kenosha, Wis.; and Galesburg, III., though he has not been charged in those cases.

Even without convictions in any other cases, Champ, 38, will not be eligible for early release for another 27 1/2 years. The charges in Iowa, first degree kidnapping, carry mandatory life sentences.



courtesy photo

Vinson Champ

Cateway

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Med Center Students Study in Guatemala

RAE LICARI

Senior Staff Writer

Several students from the University of Nebraska Medical Center will spend their summer in Guatemala.

But this isn't a vacation - the 19 students will be studying community health care while also brushing up on their Spanish during the trip.

The program is a four-week course that is offered in conjunction with UNMC's International Studies and Programs and will be offered twice this summer. The first session ran from June 4 through July 2. The second session started on July 2 and will conclude on July 29.

The students will be located at Antigua, a short distance from Guatemala City, and will live with Guatemalan host families. The students - 17 from the College of Medicine and two from the College of Nursing - will acquire Spanish language education on an individual basis, and medical instruction as a group, and will also volunteer at a hospital

While in Guatemala, the students will learn about health care in Central America in several ways. Students will take field trips, visit Guatemalan health care facilities, and interact with local health care professionals.

After the original four-week course, three of the UNMC students will also spend a month volunteering in Managua, Nicaragua. The students will be volunteering at Los Chavelitos, a clinic that was started in part by Omaha organizations in 1994 and continues to receive support from numerous groups in Omaha.

In a recent press release, Sara Pirtle, the coordinator of the Office of International Studies and Programs at UNMC, said of the program, "It's a wonderful opportunity for students, who will experience health care provided in a different way and in a different setting. It also will give them a foundation for Spanish, which is important because we need more health-care providers who have Spanish skills to better meet the needs of our constituents."

Take Precautions to Keep Away Melanoma

ZAHRA CHEEMA

Features Editor

According to the American Cancer Society, this year 47,700 cases of melanoma (the most serious kind of skin cancer) will be diagnosed. This cancer, along with other skin cancers, can be prevented by avoiding harmful ultraviolet

If melanoma is treated in the early stages, it can be cured. The Nebraska Medical Association says it is Important to keep a careful watch for the signs of melanoma.

One of the signs is the change in an existing mole, or a new abnormal-looking mole. Change in size or texture on an existing mole could possibly be a sign. Others include uneven coloring of the mole, ragged edges, or non-matching halves of the mole.

For women, melanoma most commonly develops in the lower legs and trunk, and for men, on the back, head or

According to the American Cancer Society, the best defense against melanoma is to be careful under the sun. It is advised to avoid outdoor activities when the sun's rays are most intense, and limit time spent between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

UV rays can pass through water, so it is advised to be careful when in water. Also be careful on the beach because sand reflects sunlight and this can intensify the amount of UV received.

The American Cancer Society also recommends covering up when in the sun. Wear loose, comfortable clothing that protects the arms, legs and body. Dark colors are advised because they provide more protection than light colors do. Wearing a hat will give protection to the face, neck

Keeping a person's eyes protected from the sun is very important since research has shown that long eye-exposure to the sun can increase chances of developing some types of eye cancers. The American Cancer Society recommends buving sunglasses that carry a label saying they block 99 percent to 100 percent of UVA and UVB radiation. The UV protection does not come from the darkness of the lens, but from an invisible chemical applied to it.

Having fun in the sun is not a hazard, with a few extra precautions everyone will enjoy the summer.

Crane Coffee Flies the Coop

BRIAN BRASHAW

Staff Writer

It's summertime and the living is easy. Unless, of course, you are a

cappuccino addict at UNO.

Those taking classes during these long summer months have found themselves with one less place to get a good early morning caffeine jolt from a latte, mocha or cappuccino and muffin.

You get up at 8 a.m. to go to class, rush out the door with just enough time to stop at the Crane Coffee stand on the first floor of the Milo Bail Student Center, just to find out that the convenient little Crane Coffee stand has gulp — disappeared.

The Crane Coffee stand, normally found by in the study area next to the computer lab, is gone. That much

So where is it? Why did it go? Is it coming back? And how is a college student supposed to survive the morn-

Now for the rest of the story.

The contract with Crane Coffee was only during the academic term," Student Center Director Jim Welch said.

To begin with, the Student Center does not generate enough traffic to merit an espresso stand during the summer, and that appears to be the reason that the stand is gone for the time being.

The stand doesn't exist during the summer time because Crane Coffee's contract with UNO expired.

However, come fall semester, students should not expect to see Crane Coffee on campus.

"They (Crane Coffee) decided not to come back," Welch said.

The 1999-2000 academic year was the first year Crane had a stand on the UNO campus.

In fact, most of the students seemed to like the convenience of walking into the student center, grabbing a cup of joe and wrapping their minds around a textbook in one of the comfortable seats in the student center.

Students need not fear the espresso void. Welch and

Coffeehouse & Bakery Coffeehouse & Bakery

CM Chris Machian

The Crane Coffee shop at 60th and Dodge is the closest Crane will be to UNO. The contract for the UNO coffee kiosk ended with the Spring term and Crane did not renew.

others working for the student center are looking into getting a deal set up with another vendor.

"We'll know better in two weeks," Welch said.

So what is a coffee-starved student supposed to do in the meantime?

Well there is always the machine upstairs in the cafeteria of the student center. There are also several coffee shops near campus.

But as it is, Crane has flown the UNO coop.

tip?? Got a News

Call 554-2470 or bring your press release to MBSC 115.

One-on-One with Brian Billick

DAVID M. JOHNSON

Senior Sports Writer

Brian Billick is in his second year as head football coach of the NFL Baltimore Ravens. He was on campus Saturday to assist UNO Head Coach Pat Behms with the first annual Maverick Football Coaches Clinic. Coach Billick and Coach Behms were both coaches at Utah State and have remained close friends through the years. We talked with Coach Billick at the press conference.

Gateway: The Baltimore Ravens finished the 1999 season 8-8, but won four of their last five games. That has to give you momentum coming into this season.

Billick: The NEL is a very competitive league. There's not much difference between a losing team and a winning team. When you look around the league, there's not any team you don't look at where you say, "Wait a minute, this is a pretty good team, but it's got a hole here, or there's not depth at this position." We're a team with very young talent. We drafted good, young talent. This time last year going into training camp, I could not have told you 30 of my final 53 roster players. This year, I could confidently tell you 46 or 48 of my final 53 roster players. A lot of our optimism comes from (quarterback) Tony Banks. We've got one of the top one or two defenses in the league, and we've added Shannon

Gateway: Tony Banks is coming back at quarterback. You've signed Trent Dilfer. You've drafted Chris Redman, the golden arm out of Louisville. Is Banks your starter, or is Redman your future?

Billick: Tony Banks is our future, but that doesn't preclude a Chris Redman from becoming our future. In the league there is a trend that has set in --- along with your starter, you have to have a quality backup, because in today's game, the statistical chances of you coming through your season with your starter intact is not very good. Anytime you have the chance to draft a quarterback you think a lot of, whether it's in the first round or the fifth round, you've got to take that guy. Now, we've got the experience of a Trent Dilfer, who's had a Pro Bowl season and two playoff seasons to back up our legitimate starter, Tony Banks. When Chris Redman fell to us in the draft, you couldn't ask for a better situation for a young guy to come here and learn from two pretty good guys.

Gateway: Your offensive line is huge, but young. Most of your experience is on the defensive side of the ball. Is that a concern, not having an offensive line which has been together for a number of

Billick: It takes experience and time for them to mesh together. What we do have are the tackles nailed down with a Jonathan Ogden on one side and a Harry Swayne, a two-time Super Bowl participant with the Denver Broncos. There is a lot of maturity and experience there. Jeff Mitchell at center has really stepped up, and I think has become one of the better centers in the National Football League. We're very young at guard, but they are wrapped around some very good experience at tackle and center. So, I'm very comfortable with our line.

Gateway: You've got speed to kill at wide receiver with Qadry Ismail, who had a breakout season last year, 1105 yards receiving and six touchdowns. Was he a surprise?

Billick: it wasn't necessarily for me, because I had Qadry at Minnesota (Vikings). I think he, after being on what he called his wilderness trek around the NFL, recognized what he had to do to reestablish himself in the NFL. So, I got a re-vitalized Qadry Ismail and a mature Qadry Ismail

Gateway: Baitimore begins the season with games against the Steelers, Jacksonville and Miami. That has to be a nightmare opening.

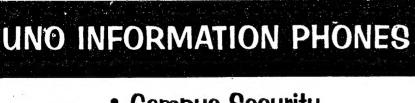
Billick: We have five of our first seven games on the road. We're the only team in the NFL that's doing that ... only two home games the first half of the season, so that's going to be a challenge. The up side is we will play the majority of our home games down the stretch in the second half. But, we're going to find out what our destiny is very early in the season. I'm glad we're playing Pittsburgh and Jacksonville early, because we're going to test what we are about. We've got to beat Jacksonville if we're going to be a playoff team.

Gateway: Does the NFL actively scout Division II and indoor league football?

Billick: Absolutely. This league is so competitive, you're looking for any way you can to find that athlete who has slipped through the cracks. There are any number of reasons why guys are not playing Division I ball: grades, finances, maturity factor, just being in the wrong situation at the wrong time. There are a lot of gems out there, and we don't care where we get them from. When training camp starts you're looking for the best 53 players out there, whether they come from the University of Nebraska or the University of Nebraska at Omaha. It doesn't matter where they came from, you're looking to be competitive enough to win.



Brian Billick, head football coach of the NFL Baltimore Ravens, talks to reporters at the first annual Pat Behrns Maverick Football Coaches Clinic. Coach Billick and Coach Behrns were once both coaches at Utah State.



- Campus SecurityFaculty & Staff locationsCampus phone numbersGeneral information

For your safety and convenience there is at least CAMPUS PHONE in each major building.

*The information operator is ready to assist you. You can also stop by the information window in Eppley Administration Building for information, free notary services, schedules, brochures, etc.

Campus Security can be reached at x4-2648 from all campus phones.

You can also call 911 or Campus Security at (554-2648 or 554-2911) from 33 campus pay phones FREE.



prunes?"

Capel Cottage

Revue

Cruisin

The Food and Drug Administration has given

its approval to the California prune growers to

have the name "prunes" officially changed to

"dried plums." This marketing change is designed

But it will be no less embarrassing in the

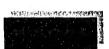
David Johnson

Not Call Plums "Hydro-

















check-out counter when the sixteen-year old cashiers yells, "Martha, how much for the dried plum juice? Better hurry, I think this guy needs to drink it right away." Ssshhhhhhhhh!

According to a national computer mapping company, the most remote area in the lower 48 states is in the southeast corner of Yellowstone National Park. This is the one place where no sign of human existence or intervention exists.

You call that remote? Obviously, this mapping company has never been to my macroeconomics

Don't Always Believe What You Read

Every watch CNN Headline News? If you do, you will notice a changing scroll at the bottom of the screen showing headlines from each of the 50 states. Last Thursday, the scroll read, "Maine: Country star for 60 decades, "Slim" Clark dies at age 82.

Sixty decades? He must have been in that bluegrass band, "Methuselah."

Turkish Delight

Prince Ernst August, husband of Princess Caroline of Monaco, apologized to the country of Turkey last month. Apparently, the prince peed on

the side of Turkey's exhibition building at the Expo 2000 World's Fair in Germany. In his apology he said, "relieving myself during my visit was definitely not a conscious act."

Hey ... when you gotta go, you gotta go.

There's One Born Every Minute

Psychology Professor Leo Sprinkle led the 21st meeting of UFO theorists last month at the University of Wyoming. Sprinkle, an author of a book on alien abductions, said he once "scoffed at people who claimed to see UFO's," until he saw one himself.

Or, at least until one sees how much money can be made writing books on alien abductions.

Home Of The Whopping Lawsuit

Burger King has found itself on the wrong end of a lawsuit over its new advertising campaign in which the characters from the movie "Chicken Run" are shown holding up signs which say: 'Save the Chickens: Eat a Whopper." Chick-fil-A claims the Burger King ads too closely resemble their cartoon cows who promote: "Eat Mor Chikin.

Thank goodness the government has given us tort reform, ending frivilous lawsuits which clog

When Did Guys Stop Liking Bare Breasts at Concerts?



It was a magical moment.

to attract younger customers.

From the first mention of Aerosmith coming to town, I told everyone I was going to throw my bra at Steven Tyler.

I talked about it for weeks. Whenever someone mentioned the concert, I told them proudly that I was going to throw my bra at Steven Tyler.

And then the moment arrived. After elbowing my way through cranky, geezer fans and suffering behind two smelly six-foot five guys, I threw my pretty, white-lace bra at Steven Tyler.

It landed dead on stage.

The dude in front of me turned and said, "Nice

Tom Hamilton, (the bass player,) picked it up, held it to his chest, and said, "It's too big, it won't fit."

The next available opportunity, up went my shirt, exposing my bare breasts to Steven Tyler.

I couldn't tell if he saw me or not, because he was wearing these huge sunglasses. Still, this moment of nudity was a truly liberating and exciting experience.

Now, roughly two years later, I am baffled by young men deterring this behavior.

This spring, I went to see Foo Fighters and Red Hot Chili Peppers. To my absolute shock, David Grohl told a girl to "Put your shin back on. That's gross!"

Huh?

Not long after that, two guys on 89.7 The River were talking about The Bloodhound Gang show and all the women who were bare breasted at Sokol Hall.

I couldn't believe my ears! They were dogging on the girls who got dropped their tops!

Now, did I miss something here? Since when do guys not like being surrounded by topless

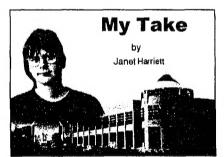
And to label the activity as gross? Gross is somebody picking his nose and cating the boogers. Gross is peeing in the office coffee maker and watching your co-workers drink it. How in the world do breasts compare with consuming bodily wastes?

Maybe I should have seen this coming. Afterall, the popularity of bands like Creed with their philanthropic anthems could have clued me into the stuffy, Disneyland attitude. Rock-n-roll used to be for the dirty, rebellious type. Now the distorted guitars back up dudes singing about their dreams of love and world unity.

And if baring one's breasts is gross, what about all the disgusting things guys do? I don't know how many farts, burps, spits, public urinations and body odors I've endured by members of the opposite sex.

So if exposing one's mammaries is gross, call me disgusting. Cause the next time I see Anthony Kiedis, I'm going to set my puppies free.

Talk About the Blind Leading the Sighted



While I was growing up in Oregon, a friend of my parents did almost all our auto repair work.

The only difference between Dick and any of my parent's other friends was Dick went completely blind at age 11, about a half century before my father brought him over to work on one of the

I was probably 10 the first time we met. He always called me "Good Looking," even then.

Dick had never seen most of the cars he worked on, but he could tell what was wrong before we left the driveway just by listening to the license, my father asked me to drive Dick home ended up at the other end of town.

Even as competent as he was as a mechanic, Dick was often out of work. Unable to see, he worked slower than sighted mechanics garages

I did not realize his other challenge until after I moved away from home and thought about Dick less and less.

When I was about 11, I asked Dick if he could read Braille. He told me he could, but he read so slowly that by the time he finished a sentence, he could not remember the first part. My mother told me later that the years of handling hot car parts had killed the nerves in his fingers so he could not feel the raised dots anymore.

So, he was not exactly illiterate, but lacking a way to get the input, he might as well have been.

Sometimes his "handicap" proved to be more of a benefit than a hindrance. When darkness fell. Dick asked why my father wanted to quit for the

"Doesn't bother me," Dick would say as my father strung work lamps from the hood.

One night, not too long after I got my driver's

while he finished cleaning up the auto-repair clutter from the day. I asked for directions to his house a few miles outside the city.

"He'll get you there," my father said.

Great, I thought, just ask the blind man for directions through miles of dark rural roads to a place I had only been a few times in daylight.

I wasn't feeling much more confident when, as we approached a turn in the road, Dick told me, The signs say the road turns left. Just keep going straight.'

I almost turned anyway, but just as the curve was upon me, I saw in the headlights the road branching off the main road, straight ahead.

Then Dick told me to slow down, because I was driving way too fast for the narrow country

We talked about my plans for the future, college and a writing or teaching career. He told me that he regretted never being able to go to college

I did not get lost until after I had dropped him off at his house and turned around to go home again. Without his guidance, I missed a turn and

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Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis

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The editor reserves the right to adit all letters for publication. Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Chancellor Nancy Belck Speaks on UNO Issues

DAVID M. JOHNSON

Sports Editor

Nancy Belck, Ph.D., will be entering her third full year as chancellor of the UNO this September. Belck received her baccalaureate degree in secondary education from Louisiana Tech University before completing her master's degree at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. She was awarded her doctorate in family ecology and communications at Michigan State. We caught up with Belck last Friday afternoon just before one of her many walks around campus.

Gateway: There have been many changes on campus in the past three years — the Peter Kiewit Institute and the University Village dormitories to name two.

Belck: It's been an exciting three years. Universities always have a lot going on, but in such a short amount of time to open the first residence halls, to open the new campus with such major funding from the private sector — it really is making us world class.

I would add to this list the Division I hockey. It has such great community support, and of course, the national head-lines of making it to the semi-finals of the CCHA championships. We have the student life being enhanced by the residence halls and the academic life being enhanced by the quality of our academic programs.

Gateway: You sound positive about UNO.

Belck: UNO has unlimited potential. We have good community support, and we are carving out our niche as a metropolitan university. In that metropolitan university concept, we have one of the best models in the nation. We have a lot of private funding in internships. We have a lot of private funding in our education and business and college of public affairs and community services programs.

Gateway: In your walks around campus, how many times a day do you hear, "There's not enough parking?"

Belck: I don't hear that as much anymore as I did when I first arrived. There is no question that parking is an issue. It's an issue on every metropolitan campus. But what has helped is adding 1,400 stalls on the south campus when we opened the new Peter Kiewit Institute. Now we're building the new Scott residence halls. We also put those new stalls down there and increased the timing of the shuttle bus service. Students and staff alike can park down there, use the shuttle and be on campus in four to five minutes.

Gateway: The Omaha World-Herald published a report on June 17 in which they reported that graduation rates at UNO for African American students who enroll full-time as freshmen and stay the course through graduation is only eight percent, and for Hispanic students only 10 percent. Can you comment on those figures?

Belck: To put it into a broader context, if you read the entire article the *World-Herald* published, there are a lot of reasons those figures are where they are. I'm not proud of them, and I want the be the first to say we are working very hard to improve. That is our top priority. We need to do better

Metropolitan universities tend to attract more students who are going to go part-time. They are not entering go get a degree, but to get a skill set. We have lot of high-risk students. We do not have that traditional student population like you have at a residential college, like at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. So, our rates are going to be lower.

Now, having said that, they are still lower than they should be. What we're looking at is "why." The data in the article you mentioned is based on a six-year persistence grads. We have so many students who are working full-time. They are going to take eight or 10 years to complete their degrees.

Deadline:

July 17th 2000

Gateway: This campus is a diverse mixture of Pacific Rim students, Middle East students, Hispanic students, Eastern European students and African-American students. What, if anything, is UNO doing to recruit and retain them?

Belck: Applications for Fall 2000 overall are up 18.7 percent. Applications among all minority categories is up 18 percent, and enrollment for those admittees is up 22 percent. Minority applications have risen 33 percent since 1977 with enrollees increasing 43 percent over the same period. We are doing a very good job of retaining our international students.

We have introduced a First-Year Connection program for late-filing freshmen who come here without mentors or established bases. Those are the students who have the highest dropout rate. Our fall to spring retention rate just published for First-Year Connection students is 81.5 percent. That is phenomenal. The normal for those students is 33 percent. That is the best news of all.

Our fall-to-fall freshman retention rate is 66.1 percent, up from 61.9 percent in 1996. We are making a difference, and that difference will show up in the statistics over the next six to eight years.

Gateway: Look into your crystal ball. What do you see at UNO five to 10 years from now?

Belck: We will have quite a few faculty retiring in the next three to five years, and that will put a challenge on our recruiting. We are projecting 16,500 students, an ideal amount. We will have residential housing that is full, with a 200-person waiting list. The south campus Scott Hall will be full. We will have additional graduate education in selected areas. We will have increased numbers of graduate certificate programs. We are going to be an entrepreneurial university that responds to the needs of the work place. We put students first. We will have high academic excellence. We will engage more effectively with the community.

Life Changes Yield Satisfaction and Work

OPINION BY KRISI MILOTA

Production Editor

A friend and I were reminiscing the other day, and I realized that in the past year, even the past six months, my life has made a complete 180 degree turn. Don't get me wrong, it has been a change for the better, but it has really worn me down. In the past year or so, I graduated high school, tried UNL only to miserably fail, moved back to Omaha and our fine campus, managed to get promoted to Assistant Manager at the job I have been at for over 3 years, and competely broke free from my parents.

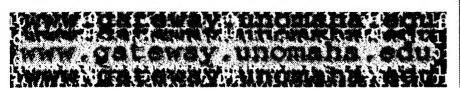
It just kind of hit me how quickly I have gone from a 'kid' to an adult, with a whole world of new responsibilities and stresses that I never had before. Not to say I have never experienced stress before, but I think I have hit a whole new level. Even with all the drama and stress I have had in this past year, for the first time in my life, I finally found happiness this summer, being totally reliant on myself.

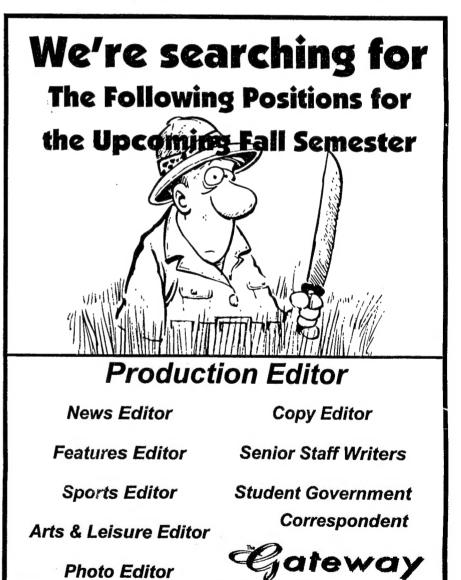
I moved out just before spring finals, with three friends of mine (two guys and one other girl), into a two bedroom apartment, everything going fine and dandy, for the first month. After that first month or so the other girl flipped on the rest of us, causing nothing but drama, to this day. She no longer lives with us, and we have found a new place to live, after she took a bunch of our personal belongings one day while we were all at work. Apperently it is legal to steal people's things if you say they owe you money (after she broke the lease which was in her name), even though what she took is worth well over three times what she says we owe

As if that isn't stress in itself, I have been working three jobs, sometimes fifteen- or sixteen-hour days, to make ends meet, which I am not complaining about. It seems funny to me, hanging out with some of my younger friends, and the kids that work for me, whining at working a full eight hour day, or not having weekends off from work. Every day my employees remind me so much of myself a couple of years ago. When I started working there I was sixteen, with no real responsibilities or problems other than school, money for gas and entertainment. I would put in my 20 hours a week, and waste away the rest of my time with my friends, basically doing nothing.

Now, free time is a blessing, when I have any. July 4th was the first day I did not have to work at all in about a month and a half, and I enjoyed every second of it. Days seem to run together; wake up, work, work more, go home, go to bed, do it all over agian. Before I realize it a week has gone by, my mom and my friends giving me a hard time for not calling. Other than the two I live with, my friends call me shady and rag on me for not partying with them, or for going to bed early on a Friday night. Maybe I am nineteen acting like a boring 40 year old, but I am getting things done, and I am still managing to have some fun along the way.

As much work as it is, and as stressful as my life has been this summer, it has all been worth it. Everything I have, everything I do is on my own. In a way it really sucks; just last week the clutch on my beloved Escort went out, leaving me without wheels. How I am going to pay for repairs or for a new car I have yet to figure out, but somehow I will get through it.





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MP3's Revisited: Advancements Bring on Setbacks

TIM VIDAS

Staff Writer

This piece contains the opinion of the author

On the advent of giant advances for the

On the advent of giant advances for the MP3 medium, major setbacks are being thrown at the format from all angles.

The electronic company Apex brings the first home DVD player able to decode MP3 files directly from a CD to play on a home stereo.

But Apex units were recalled and shipment was delayed until a new version of the player's internal software was written. Now other small companies like Geneca are starting to sell portable CD players able to play MP3s.

Geneca and Apex cannot make quality players that consumers want. Consumers want big-name companies like Pioneer, Samsung, Toshiba, RCA and others. Many larger companies are now producing portable MP3 players that store songs in memory, but the player must be connected to the computer and a small amount of songs must basically be downloaded to the device.

An average CD can hold 10 to 15 times more data than these small MP3 players at

about 1/100 the cost.

To make matters worse, Sony not only has no plans to release a CD MP3 player, but with Sony's MP3 players the MP3s must be converted to another special format, making it even harder for new users.

NAPSTER

One of the biggest crazes in the MP3 world is a music-sharing icon called Napster. Napster is a Web site that lets you download software and share MP3 freely among anyone else with the same software.

Some may have heard in the news that Metallica and Dr. Dre are leading a class-action lawsuit again Napster, Inc.

Burning your own CDs into MP3s for you own use is not illegal. It's not even illegal to store these MP3s on your computer or on a server. It is illegal to give these songs to somebody else or to take songs from somebody that you haven't paid for, unless the artist gives the music away for free.

This is was Metallica is suing about. Napster users across the world are sharing Metallica songs and many others are downloading them. Here is the problem in detail: Metallica spends its own money to hire a research firm to pinpoint Napster user

names that are sharing potential Metallica songs and they found around 300,000. The band also pays large amounts for high-profile legal representation, and is attempting to use all these names for legal leverage on the size of the piracy problem that the world is facing.

Metallica spends a whole lot of time and money to attempt to put Napster out of business and bad mouths 300,000 fans in the process. What good will it do? Possibly none.

If Napster does actually lose and is finally dissolved, it will not stop piracy. Other software like Gnutella will be, and are, available

Part of the idea of sharing is "that if I hear a song I like, I'll be more likely to go buy the whole CD." This seems to be working. On average, CD sales nationwide increased seven percent last year. That's not the interesting part. In the age group 18-26 year olds, CD sales increased 75 percent.

Most in favor of the MP3 file-sharing debate are saying that those who use computers the most, the 18-26 year old demographic, are those who are now purchasing the CD because of it.

Shaft: A Sizzling Film for a Hot Summer

RYAN NORRIS

Senior Staff Writer

WARNING: THERE ARE SPOILERS IN THIS REVIEW.

If you do not want to know certain parts of the film ahead of time do not read this.

John Singleton's remake of the 1970's blaxploitation film "Shaft" is loaded with action and a plot line that explores the animosity between the black and white races.

The film stars Samuel L. Jackson who is famous for his many roles, including Jules, the hoodlum in "Pulp Fiction". In this film, he plays a cop who quits the police force after hitting a richboy racist played by Christian Bale ("American

Psycho" & "Empire of the Sun") who killed an innocent black man. Shaft goes on a personal journey of vengeance when the racist's money and influence get him out of jail.

Singleton presents a world where blacks and whites are clearly at odds with each other. They only work together when needed and even when they do they are still bickering, trading racial slurs with one another.

Later in the film a Latino drug lord makes a deal with the racist to nab a witness in exchange for trafficking cocaine to richer - and presumably whiter - clientelle.

Vanessa Williams plays a tough cop who aids

Shaft along the way, and the original Shaft, Richard Roundtree, plays Shaft's uncle. It is disappointing to see Roundtree reduced to making his cameo in a bar set and in mostly sedentary blocking; however, he makes the most of the role.

Singleton, who directed "Boyz n' the Hood" and "Higher Learning," still blends statements about life among different races with action, but the film could have stood on it's own without putting the "Shaft" name on it and theme song to it. The "Shaft" mystique does guarantee an audience, and the cameo of hip hop star Busta Rhymes will also bring his followers to theaters.

Rating: B

C Dey Brandon Papipas R E V I E W S







Trinket "Set to Explode" (RCA)

Anyone remember the band Soup Dragons? Trinket is not the Soup Dragons, but it sounds like them. It also sounds like the band Material Issue. The problem is Trinket is not as good as either of those two bands. At times "Set to Explode" sounds like it wants to break out into heavily distorted guitars, screaming vocals and deep bass lines. Instead it sticks to a restricted song structure and a simple beat that we have all heard before. One cannot help but think that the choruses are structured like the boy bands of today. All the choruses have simple beats and repetition that makes young girls scream. Trinket calls itself a band when it should only call iteself a group, like the Backstreet Boys. "Set to Explode" is an album only Jim Minge could love. **Grade:** *D*-

Nina Gordon "Tonight and the Rest of My Life" (Warner Bros.)

As co-founder of the female rock group Veruca Salt, Nina Gordon often sang about love, bad men and aggressive behavior. Gordon is no longer in Veruca Salt, and she no longer has those aggressive heart-pounding rhythms. What Gordon does still have is her superb voice. Gordon reaches for the lighter side of melodies and slowed down tempos with "Tonight and the Rest of My Life." While the aggressive, distorted guitars are no longer commonplace with Gordon, her sense of change and surprise are still with her. While most songs move slowly, there are still hooks and off-beat rhythms thrown in to keep you listening. Make no mistake about it, this is no Natalie Merchant disc, it can be called the lost Veruca Salt disc, the mellow album. Grade: B

The Union Underground "...An Education in Rebellion" (Portrait/Columbia Records)

At first listen, The Union Underground sound like Rob Zombie. Upon further listening, one gets the feel that there is more to The Union Underground than drum loops and overly distorted guitars like Rob Zombie. The Union Underground seems to focus more on lyrics, unique guitar solos and an overall feel to each song. While The Union Underground has more redeeming values that Rob Zombie, lead singer Bryan Scott coes sound a lot like Zombie. The band's first single, "Turn me on Mr. Deadman," has already been receiving heavy spins on radio across the country. The band's first independent EP has been a commodity of the Internet too. The aggressive and sometimes brutal The Union Underground provides a foot-tapping beat along with interesting guitars that will leave you wanting to hear more. You can catch The Union Underground live this Thursday for only \$.93 at the Ranch Bowl. **Grade:** C+

The Phantom Outshines Leading Lady

Review By Margaret Boehme

"The Phantom of the Opera" is currently playing at the Orpheum Theater. With a proficient cast and orchestra, elaborate costumes and advanced special effects, this production is well worth seeing.

What classifies this presentation as a "must see" is the mind-expanding portrayal of the Phantom by actor Ted Keegan.

Set in the Victorian era, this musical is based on Gaston Leroux's novel, "Le Fantome de l'Opera." With music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Charles Hart, "The Phantom of the Opera" movingly tells the tragic tale of a masked figure who inhabits the catacombs of the Paris Opera House, inflicting terror upon the actors and management.

The Phantom becomes obsessed with young soprano Christine Daae. To win her affections, he dedicates himself to her career by nurturing her talents and implementing any method necessary to promote her stardom, including murder. A love triangle develops when Christine is unable to decide between her "Angel of Music," or the young and handsome Raoul, also known as the Vicomte de Chagny.

Ted Keegan's leading role performance as the Phantom is simply brilliant. If perfection can be attained onstage, Keegan embraces it.

Keegan merges superb theatrical technique and a deep, transcendental under-



M Chris Machian

Left: Ubaido Piangi (Frederic Heringes) rides in on a mechanical elephant during the first of Phantom's three operas-within-a play, Hannibal. Above: Opera Managers Monsieur Firmin (David Cryer) and Monsieur Andre (Bill Carmichael) discuss the Phantom's latest trick while Christine (Rebecca Pitcher), Carlotta (Julie Schmidt) and Ubaldo Piangi (Frederic Heninges) look on.

together, the obvious variance of skill between Keegan and Pitcher is not easily overlooked. Pitcher's portrayal of Christine is overly forced, and at other times purely apathetic. Neither approach proves very effective.

It appears Pitcher's interpretation of the character is directed entirely on outward movement and actions, with no focus on the subtext. Pitcher's inability to act is troubling since the context of this musical is multidimensional and

complex, especially where the role of Christine is concerned. Exploring the role of Christine would present a soul-searching challenge, even for some-

one who could act. Judging from Pitcher's stale performance, the farthest she dove emotionally with her character was to the shallow waters of stage directions. Beyond following cues and wearing the right costume, Pitcher had no connection to her character.

Despite the leading lady's mediocre presentation, this production is carried marvelously by

In addition to Ted Keegan's stellar rendition, Jim Weitzer, who portrays Christine's love interest, Raoul, gives a breathtaking performance.

Weitzer's sincere and charming voice brings a credible tone to the romantic aspect of the plot.

Rebecca Judd, as the stern ballet mistress Madame Giry, contributes greatly to the musical. Judd conveys a stark sense of realism and fear of the Phantom with a laser-like intensity upon her role. David Cryer's performance theater manager Monsieur Firmin brings a natural humor with ideal comedic timing and an invigorating personality to the stage.

PUBLIC SALE: There will be a public auction of university surplus property at the warehouse at 3805 No. 16th Street on Saturday, July 15, 2000. Standley Auction & Realty Co.

will handle the sale. Items may be viewed starting at 8:00 a.m. on the sale day with the auction to start at 10:00 a.m.





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M Chris Machian standing of this role. The result is an emotionally transforming experience for the audience. Keegan's portrayal expresses in vivid detail the tragic essence of the Phantom.

In every scene Keegan exposes the heartache, sexual yearnings and supreme intelligence of his character.

As an actor, Keegan has that extremely rare ability to spark life into the character. The creation of the Phantom seems to be activated through every cell of the actor. Keegan's transformation of the Phantom can be seen entirely from his body posture to the slight gestures of

Keegan has one of the most captivating singing voices to not only be heard, but felt on a primal level. Of the numerously touching moments Keegan achieves on stage, one of the most beautiful and poignant occurs in the final scene.

After Christine chooses to go with Raoul, she turns around and passionately kisses the phantom. Afterwards, as Christine makes her exit from the Phantom, he sings "Christine, I love you..." In that single line of vocals, Keegan is able to communicate so much humanity, understanding and unconditional love in the mist of bitter rejection.

Unfortunately, Keegan's profound abilities are not matched in this performance by the female lead. Due to a very poor casting choice, Rebecca Pitcher portrays the role of Christine Daae. Although Pitcher demonstrates that she has a well-trained soprano voice, sadly that is all she has to offer. Pitcher's acting abilities are sorely lacking.

Because these two principle roles of the Phantom and Christine share several scenes



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The Most UltimateTrivia Challenge

- What is the real title of the famous Whistler painting, "Whister's Mother?"
- 2. Where was Brittany Spears born?
- The "steam point" is 100 degrees Celsius. What it is in Fahrenheit?
- 4. What does the "T" stand for in James T. Kirk?
- 5. Which came first, the first report of AIDS or the introduction of compact discs?
- Hypnophobia is the fear of what?
- What are Orthoptera?
- 8. "Doric," "lonic" and "Tuscan" are used in the study of what artform?
- What does Charlie Brown's father do for a living?
- 10. What town was Radar O'Reilly from?

Answers

- 10. Offumwa, lowa
- 9. He's a barber.
 - 8. Architecture
- 7. The insect order of grasshoppers, locusts and crickets.
 - deels '9
- 5. AIDS If first reported in 1981, CD's are introduced 1982.

 - 3. 212 degrees
 - 2. Kentwood, Louislana
- "Arrangement in Grey and Black: A Portrait of the Artist's Mother."

'Messiest Apartment' Winner Cleans Up With \$10,000 Prize

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

The competition definitely was stiff. Most others would be intimidated by a rival who owned two pet rats or another who held a birthday party for a two-year-old carton of milk. However, through perseverance, John Anderson emerged as the winner. He barely emerged, however.

Anderson, a junior at Ohio Northern University, is the winner of the Messiest College Apartment Contest, sponsored by Apartments.com. Visitors to the site voted on the pigsty prize, based on photographs and essays submitted by Anderson and the finalists, from University of Maryland, and Elgin

Why on earth would anyone reward students for messy habits? Apartments.com reasons that since the Web site offers floorplans, photo, and video of the apartments it features, "What better way to showcase the country's top college slobs than on the most visual apartment site on the Internet?" it makes sense, in a way, especially since the average college student produces a whopping 640 pounds of solid waste each year, according to a 2000 study by Speedway Disposal & Recycling.

In his essay, Anderson said thoughtfully, "I still haven't figured out what is rotting on my table, but it is growing.

For his efforts, or lack thereof, Anderson received \$10,000 in prize money (which Anderson, not surprisingly, says he will use to find a nicer apartment), and \$2,000 in credit to spend on auctions.com, the sister site of Apartments.com.

What does Anderson credit to his award-winning apartment? Numerous, careless houseguests, he

"I am the only one who ever cleans up the place . . . so I decided to let it go until someone else cleans up, which doesn't happen," he said.

Ironically, Anderson is a biology and environmental studies major, certified by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to handle and remove toxic waste (but not his own.)

Now that he is a big winner, does he consider any drawbacks to being such a big slob? It should come as no surprise that the landlord of the famous abode would not renew his lease. "Nobody seems to like the idea of renting to me," Anderson says.

PEANUT GALLER

Don Klosterman, UNO's head women's soccer coach, announced last week the addition to his coaching staff of Michaelene "Mikki" Denney, who is expected to help in planning practices and coordinate recruiting efforts. Denney is a native of Omaha and a graduate of Marian High School in 1992, where she led her soccer team to the state championships her senior season. She played collegiately at

both North Carolina and at Minnesota. Denney was team captain for the Golden Gophers in 1996 and 1997. She has a masters in psychology and is a certified drug and alcohol counselor. If the name



should. Mikki Denney is the daughter of UNO wrestling head coach Mike Denney.

Head baseball Herold coach Bob announced the signing of Papillion-LaVista pitcher Jeff Spilker to a letter of intent. The 6-4, right-handed tosser was second team All-Nebraska his senior season with a 6-2 record and a 1.85 earned run aver-

age. He pitched a total of 56 2/3 innings last season, striking out 46. Spilker is currently pitching in summer American Legion baseball. He is 4-2 with a 1.86 ERA, striking out 46 batters in 52 2/3 innings.

Court Says University Can Be Held Liable For Actor's Stabbing During Play

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

Texas A&M University at Galveston can be held liable for the accidental stabbing of a student during a 1994 drama club performance of "Dracula," the Supreme Court of Texas ruled last week. The court reversed a decision by an appeals court, to which the case now returns for further ruling.

Paul A. Bishop, who played the part of Vlad the Impaler, was stabbed during the final scene when a fellow student actor missed the protective stab pad attached to Bishop's chest. The Bowie knife penetrated Bishop's chest and punctured his lung, forcing him to spend eight days in the hospital.

Bishop's lawsuit alleges that the university is responsible for his injury because of the negligence of Michael Wonio, the director, Diane Wonio, who assisted with props and the choreography of the fight scenes, and two faculty advisors, Stephen Curly and Melanie Lasko. The suit cites a university ban on deadly weapons throughout the campus, and it argues that the Wonios were negligent in using a real knife and the faculty advisors were negligent in not ensuring the university polices were enforced.

Initially, a jury found the four named in the suit were acting as university employees and were negligent, and awarded Bishop \$250,000. However, an appeals court reversed the decision stating the Wonios were independent contractors and the professors were volunteers, despite being on the university's payroll..

The recent supreme court ruling overturned the lower court's decision and found that the four named in the suit were acting as university employees and were negligent. The case returns to the appeals court, where issues deemed irrelevant in its previous decision will be

In addition to the university, Bishop separately sued Michael Wonio, and his wife, Diane Wonio. The couple settled with Bishop for \$100,000 before the trial began, said Richard Hogan, a lawyer representing Bishop.

Bishop continued his studies at the university and graduated with an undergraduate degree in maritime systems engineering.

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